

AWARENESS

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The editor regrets that, for economic and other reasons, it is not always possible to acknowledge every item of correspondence received by CONTACT (UK) personnel, a fact in no way diminishing our gratitude to all who communicate with us.

EDITORIAL.

From time to time enquiries are received at Data Research's headquarters, which I trust everyone has noticed has moved to Wheatley, on the other side of Oxford (see p.24 of the last issue of "Awareness" and p.30 of the present issue), as to how people can assist Contact (UK) in its research programme. Naturally, we are always very interested to consider such offers of help and always try to utilize offered assistance wherever possible. Needless to add, we greatly appreciate all such offers and take this opportunity of publically thanking everyone who has so far enquired along those lines. However, additional help is always required, so, if you feel you have facilities or time that can be devoted to assisting Contact (UK)'s research programme, or wish to simply monitor events in general (along the lines discussed on pages 13 to 29 in this issue), then do not hesitate to get in touch with us at our headquarters in Wheatley. Our telephone number there is:-

Wheatley 2071.

One of the results of a growing body, such as Contact (UK) certainly is, relates to its increased involvement in the subject in which it specializes --- in this case UFOS. It is well known that the majority of ufo groups last only two or three years (and sometimes only months), so those that "stay the course", as it were, find themselves regarded as cornerstones of the overall subject and consequently receive huge amounts of correspondence from all quarters and in all languages. A situation is eventually reached when existing personnel are more than hardpressed to keep abreast of even everyday activities, thus offers of assistance are always most welcome simply because there is continually so much to attend to.

Turning now to other topics, plans are under way to produce a limited number of scale models of ufos, based on the most detailed eyewitness descriptions and/or photographs. Colleagues in Birmingham, who are professional model-makers, intend to make a variety of ufo types in metal and glass (some early specimens are superb), which will retail through Contact (UK) at very modest rates (prices yet to be fixed). As soon as production schedules are completed and the models become available, full details of the ufo types modelled and their respective prices will be given in future issues of this journal. At this stage, however, it would be useful if any readers who believe that they might like a scale-model of a ufo (which will be complete with short stand to permit use as a paperweight, etc.) could indicate their interest in the next few weeks, by writing direct to the editor, who will collect and pass on to the model-makers all such correspondence. Typical saucer-shaped, cigar-shaped, and triangular ufo types will be the first configurations to be modelled.

Finally, all members who can do so are urged to attend the important two-day convention on ufos staged on November 6th and 7th coming by BUFORA at the Centre Hotel, Birmingham. The principal speaker will be the celebrated American ufologist, Mr Ted Bloecher. Full details can be obtained from Miss Jenny Randles, 23 Sunningdale Drive, Irlam, Greater Manchester, M30 6NJ.

The Editor.

AN IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The Annual General Meeting for the current year will be held at Caxton Hall, London, on Saturday, December 4th., and will commence at 3.00pm. Speakers will include Leonard Cramp, author of two famous books on ufos, and, in addition to the usual exhibition, two scientific films about the planet Mars will be shown. Although the Tudor Room in which the AGM and lectures will be held is spacious, members are advised to arrive early as the Mars films will undoubtedly generate a high attendance. Your committee looks forward to seeing you there.

3.

"NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS ON THE UFO-PRONE WOKING FAMILY",

by
J. B. Delair.

On pages 19 to 21 of issue number 2 of volume 5 of "Awareness", an interesting account of a ufo-prone household at Woking, Surrey, was given by C.C.Warren. Although this family is still under observation and the experiences they have had are being subjected to further investigation by Mr Warren, certain features of these experiences are of considerable interest and merit commentary. These notes provide this.

One of the most startling items in Mr Warren's report concerns the existence of headless or faceless entities having hands terminating in six fingers. At first hearing this detail may seem unique, and just the kind of bizarre physical development in an alien being. This, however, is far from the case, as the following information reveals.

The occurrence of supernumerary fingers and toes in human beings has been known for centuries, and in some instances appears to be hereditary. Probably the earliest recorded example concerns a giant having 6 toes and 6 fingers on each limb, as related in the Old Testament (II Samuel, ch.xxi, ver.20, and I Chronicles, ch. xx, ver.6). This case was discussed at some length by Baron Haller, who also mentioned numerous other cases from various historical periods (see "Elementa Physiologiae", vol.viii, p.98).

The classical Roman writer Pliny also recorded similar instances of polydactyly, hyperdactyly, or hyperphalangy --- terms that describe this condition. He noted, for example, that the poet Volcatius possessed 6 fingers on each hand and was, in consequence, named Sedigitus; and that a noble Roman named M.Curiatius had two daughters both possessing 6 fingers on their hands. (see Pliny: Bk.II, ch.xliii).

Nearer our own time, Anthony Carlisle reported in detail upon a family characterised by supernumerary digits ("An Account of a Family having Hands and Feet with Supernumerary Fingers and Toes", Philosophical Magazine and Journal, vol.44, July-December, 1814, pp.17-21).

The late Harold T.Wilkins mentioned the existence of six-toed giants in pre-Columbian California, although does not quote his source ("Secret Cities of Old South America", 1950, Rider & Co., p.419). The same writer, in the May 1955 issue of "Fate" magazine, recorded the discovery, about 1810, of 6-toed human footprints of immense age impressed in solid rock near Braystown, at the headwaters of the Tennessee River. One of the impressions of a heel mark measured 13 inches in width and was 2 inches deep (loc.cit., p.25). 1810 was also the year when the aforementioned Californian 6-toed giant was unearthed (loc.cit., p.27). More recently, in 1891 to be precise, hotel excavations at Crittenden revealed a giant sarcophagus like structure of general Egyptian appearance, but, of course, not of ancient Egyptian origin. It lay inside a granite tomb made of skillfully worked blocks cemented together. The sarcophagus took the form of a giant man and was made of a strange material not unlike clay; it was coloured brightly in blue. Apart from the fact that this being was shown wearing a girdle round its waist, close-fitting sandals, and headgear shaped like a mitre topped by either a hawk's or an eagle's head, its small, almost feminine hands, were crossed on its chest. Both they and the feet were 6-toed. Crittenden, by the way, is in Arizona. (loc.cit., pp.26-27). The fate of these highly interesting remains is unknown.

So far as it has been possible to check, no verifiable reports are known in which

4. ufo occupants have been observed with six fingers and toes, or at least not according to one of the most detailed recent analyses made of ufo occupants (see Jader U.Pereira: 1974, "Les 'Extra-Terrestres'", Phenomenes Spatiaux, special publication no:2).

Facelessness in ufo occupants and alien beings has been recorded on a few earlier occasions, for example in the Argentinian case of Carlos Diaz (see C.Lorenzen and J.Lorenzen: 1976, "Encounters with UFO Occupants", Berkley-Medallion Books, New York, pp.230-234). Such facelessness may derive from the wearing of opaque visors or similar apparel masking the occupant's facial features, as much as from eye-witness inability to observe such features while undergoing obviously stressful experiences.

Finally, it is of some interest to note that the shape of the ufo observed during March 1974 (see "Awareness", vol.5, no:2, 1976, p.21, fig.4) is markedly similar to that photographed by farmer Michael Bennett over his property at Elthorpe, New Zealand, on January 14th., 1969 (see M.Hervey: 1975, "UFOs Over the Southern Hemisphere" (Robert Hale, London), lower plate opposite p.161).

The significance of these observations is uncertain, but they do show that the Woking episodes contain elements directly comparable to others in the known ufo record and with certain aspects of early human evolution and history. The presence of supernumerary digits in the Woking entity and as probable "throwback" (?) abnormalities in human beings (see p.3 supra), suggests that the claims of Kolosimo, Le Poer Trench, and von Daniken, not to mention others, respecting the possible inter-breeding between early human beings and alien visitors, may well be founded upon a substratum of real fact.

The experiences of the ufo-prone Woking household, therefore, may well include important clues to the origin of Man and the ufonauts.

TWO EARLY UFO CASES FROM THE MIDDLE EAST

by

Wing-Commander G.R.Leatherbarrow.
(Retired)

Introduction:

(The two following cases, never previously recorded in the English language to our knowledge, occurred in 1942 and 1946 respectively. They were communicated to the Earl of Clancarty (Brinsley Le Poer Trench), who forwarded them to Data Research headquarters at Cumnor, by a retired wing commander, G.R.Leatherbarrow, Esq. The details were in the form of a letter, dated May 31st., 1976, and are reproduced below verbatim: Ed.)

"Dear Lord Clancarty,

As I mentioned to you last night, I have two personal experiences of sightings made in the sky which I am unable to explain.

First of all I should explain that I was a Regular Officer in the Royal Air Force General Duties Branch, a pilot with many thousands of flying hours, and that amongst my qualifications I am, or was, a qualified Meteorologist able to make forecasts, and a General Reconnaissance Pilot fully trained to observe accurately.

The first occasion was in the air over Cairo, date about mid-1942. A brilliant white light was sighted in the sky, stationary, at an unknown height. As far as I can remember, it appeared without warning, i.e., it did not make its way

over Cairo and then stop, but just flashed on. It remained in the sky for a long time, I should say about 15 minutes, and then went out. It was thought at first to be a new German or Italian reconnaissance aircraft taking night photographs, but it did not appear on the radar screen. It was reported to Air Headquarters, Egypt, but was never explained. It was also reported in the Arab Press at the time.

The second occasion was in Istanbul in 1946. I was dancing at Taxim's Night Club, on the roof. People started to point into the sky towards the East. The band stopped playing and everyone watched as four reddish lights, in line abreast crossed the sky very quickly and disappeared in the West. Each light was square. There was a faint trace of Cirrus cloud, and the lights were reflected from the cloud, so I would put their height at about 50,000 feet. They crossed from horizon to horizon in under a minute, far too fast for any form of aircraft. There was a lot of shouting from the people around, who were clearly frightened, and I was told next day that the incident had been reported in the Turkish Press.

Yours sincerely,

G.R. Leatherbarrow. W/Cdr., R.A.F. (Retd.)"

(Editorial Comment: These two cases are valuable additions to the growing dossier on ufo sightings made during the 1940's. The object over Cairo is of special interest in that it did not register on radar, while that over Istanbul, although loosely dated 1946, would appear to tie in with the spate of "ghost rockets", "flare-like objects" and other unexplained aerial phenomena seen over southern Hungary, northern Greece, and Kashmir during the Autumn of 1946 (see Loren E. Gross: 1974. The Mystery of the Ghost Rockets, pp.25-26, 50-52), the greatest concentration of which occurred in the first few days of September. The fact that both sightings were recorded in contemporary local newspapers also points up the problem of tracking down all newspaper accounts of events of this kind. How many ufo researchers read Arabic or Turkish? There must surely have been other reports printed then in Middle East newspapers, perhaps all the way to India, for the Kashmir sighting, made on September 11th., concerned a squash-racket shaped object that moved towards the West. One therefore suspects that it may have been seen beforehand further East, and that its western route may have been noticed by residents of Afghanistan, Russia, and Persia. Yet how many searches have yet been made of newspapers printed then in those countries for ufo reports dating from 1946. Here, indeed, is a fertile field of enquiry for any ufologists able to read and translate Middle East texts.)

SOME LITTLE-KNOWN UFO REPORTS FROM FINLAND

by

A. Mauritz Hietamaki.

Below, are some little-known Finnish ufo sightings, not, so far as is known, previously published in the English ufological literature. Unfortunately, in a few instances important detail is missing. The sightings are given chronologically.

Case I: July 9, 1946: Turku City, $60^{\circ}27' \text{North}$ - $22^{\circ}15' \text{East}$, Finland.

Many people saw, at 15.35 local hours a rocket-like object flying at great speed from South to North. It was so bright and red that it cast shadows on the ground. There was a short trail behind it. The weather at the time was sunny and no clouds were visible.

Case II: July 1948: Alajarvi, $63^{\circ}00' \text{North}$ - $23^{\circ}50' \text{East}$, Finland.

One night in mid-July, a Finnish Army officer, Major Vaino Porri, and his wife, saw a large cigar shaped object. The time was between 9.00

and 10.00pm local time, but it was still bright, the sun being just on the horizon. The object passed over the Porris at moderate speed, and was seen to be like a thick cigar with shiny metallic sides and enveloped by a reddish-bluish glow. It was as large as an airliner, but had no wings, and made no noise. It was travelling on a West to East course across 130-145 degrees of sky, and remained visible for 25-35 seconds.

Case III: July 19, 1952: Helsinki, $60^{\circ}10'N$ - $24^{\circ}57'E$, Finland.

Guardsman Arthur Ahrenberg and another guardsman saw a large lens-shaped disc (see fig.1) flying from North to the Olympic Stadium, at approximately 5,000 feet altitude. It suddenly stopped in midair, and hovered motionless for a few minutes, and then lost altitude in a vertical dive for some 2,000 feet. This dive was performed very quickly. It then hovered at about 3,000 feet altitude for one minute, and then climbed rapidly back to the original altitude. Almost instantly it shot like a bullet towards the South-south-east and stopped in midair near Suomenlinna (Finnish Castle) Island, above the Helsinki waves and some miles away from the observers. By this time it had begun to wobble like a pendulum. After a short while it shot at very great speed toward the South over the Gulf of Finland and disappeared. The object's diameter was about 50 feet, or about half the wingspan of a DC-3 aeroplane.

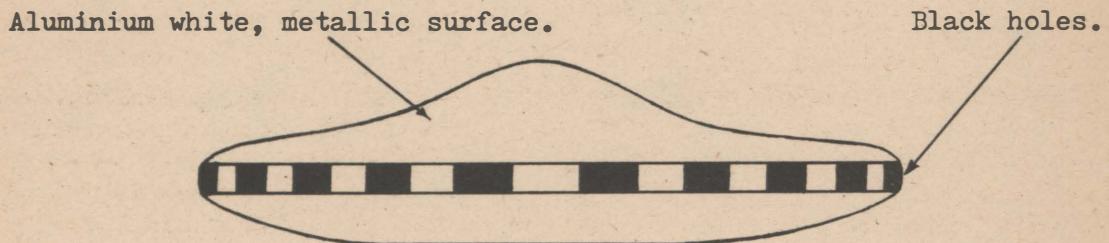


Fig.1.

Case IV: May 10, 1962: Pihlava, $61^{\circ}33'N$ - $21^{\circ}38'E$, Finland.

At 21.00 local hours, a housewife observed an object flying from the South at a low altitude. It resembled a thick cigar-shape, and was as big as a DC-3. It was wingless and noiseless, was of a metallic aluminium colour, and emitted a narrow flame-jet behind it. The object passed through the bright cloudless evening sky at moderate speed and disappeared towards the North. At the time, the sun was just below the horizon.

Case V: August 31, 1965: Helsinki, $60^{\circ}10'N$ - $24^{\circ}57'E$, Finland.

Three female adults sighted an object like two washbasins with their rims pressed together at 20.20 local hours over Mäkkylä, a suburb of Espoo district on the western side of Helsinki. The women were on a hill-top, and watched the object pass just over the tops of nearby trees. Its diameter appeared to be about 20 feet, had a translucent upper portion, carried a yellow light in the middle of its side and a white light at the rear end. It was silent. The witnesses were able to see something moving inside the translucent portion, but were unable to make out what it was. At the time, the sun had just set and it was getting dark. Under these conditions the object appeared to be grey in colour.

Case VI: July 1, 1966: Lieksa, $63^{\circ}17'N$ - $30^{\circ}01'E$, Finland.

This is an excellent sighting made by the Turunen family, and was investigated by the Finnish Border Army Forces.

Mr and Mrs Eino Turunen were, at 4.10am, woken up by their son Matti, who told them he had just seen an object coming from the North-west and stop in midair by the water tower of this little town (population 3,000). All of them rushed to an open window to view the object. It was still to be seen hovering close to the upper bulge of the tower, approximately 100 feet above ground level at that point. It was disc-like, shiny, like steel or some metal, and had a dome on the top. Rays of the rising Sun cast a reddish tint on the eastern side of the object (i.e. its side nearest the rising Sun). It remained motionless for seven minutes, during which period local birds were singing as if agitated. The object then started to move slowly North-east, accelerated rapidly, and soon disappeared over the horizon. It was in view for a total of 9 minutes.

Case VII: March 3, 1971: Helsinki, 60°10'North - 24°57'East, Finland.

A flat disc-like object was seen by two operators at the Seutula International Airport control tower and one ex-pilot, while designer J. Hyvonen, who is also an ex-pilot, also saw it at 7.30am. It hovered, with a wobbling motion, in the mid-sky above Myllypuro in the north-eastern section of Helsinki, for half an hour. At about 8.0am it suddenly shot away at great speed horizontally over the Gulf of Finland and disappeared within a few seconds. In hue, the object seemed to be aluminium-coloured and appeared to change its shape while rocked from side to side. All the observers agreed that this was a "very interesting sighting".

It is of interest to compare this sighting with the one made by pilot Waldo Harris over Salt Lake City, Utah, on October 2nd., 1961.

Case VIII: March 13, 1974: Mikkeli, 61°43'North - 27°14'East, Finland.

A Douglas DC-9 airliner belonging to FINNAIR was flying between Setula Airport in Helsinki and Rissala Airport in Kuopio, when the pilots saw two circular white glowing objects with yellow rings encircling them, flying horizontally on a South to North course near the town of Mikkeli. Observers on the ground saw these objects as well. The sighting occurred at 20.15 local hours. No other details were released by the Finnish aviation officials to whom the sighting was reported. Hopefully, further details will become available.

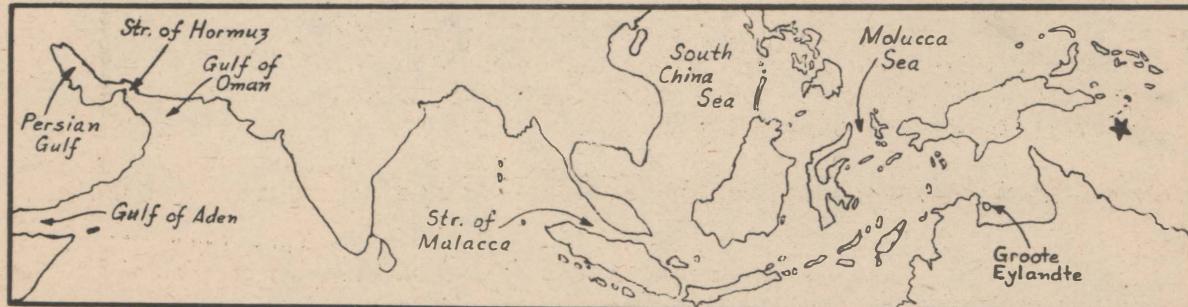
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"ANOTHER SUBMARINE UFO?"

by

J.B. Delair.

From time to time over the past hundred or so years mariners have reported seeing strange lines and circles of light rotating under the surface of the World's seas, or, more accurately, below the surfaces of certain seas. The following map shows more precisely where the vast majority of these sightings have occurred.



The indefatigable Charles Fort (1) seems to have been the first writer to have collected reports of these strange marine phenomena systematically, and he eventually concluded that, due to their apparently purposeful manoeuvrings, they were artificial "constructions" of some kind (*ibid.*, pp.272, 275, 276). This conclusion seemingly found a certain measure of confirmation in January 1964, when a compass suddenly went "haywire" simultaneously with the appearance of large rotating lights under the surface of the sea North-east of Groote Eylandt, Western Australia (2, p.119).

Various other writers have devoted attention to these mysterious luminous effects but although Sanderson has suggested that they are the products of an otherwise unknown submarine civilization (*ibid.*, p.191f) and others have suggested that they are of biological origin, a fully acceptable explanation of their nature and significance still awaits formulation. Nonetheless, the fact that luminous globes and other unidentifiable objects (not meteors or fireballs) have for decades been seen entering and leaving the World's oceans, major lakes, and larger rivers (1; and especially 2, pp.230-233), does suggest that Sanderson's interpretation at least deserves careful consideration.

Great interest therefore attaches to the much more recent observation of a luminous wheel-like body below the surface of the sea off south-western coast of Tagula Island in the Louisiade Archipelago, which lies East-south-east of Papua. So far as is known, the event has not previously been published in ufological literature, even though the original observer — Colin Isles — recorded it in his interesting book "Rahui" (3, p.187). The main details of this event, amplified a little by the author in correspondence with the present writer, are as follows.

Date: about November 1st., 1969.

Location: 10° 28' South - 151° 00' East.

Time: approximately 22.00 hours (local time).

Duration of observation: about 30 minutes.

Neither Mr Isles nor the present writer offer any explanation of this phenomenon which is marked on the map overleaf by an asterisk. It may, however, be worth recalling the spate of ufo sightings reported from this general area and from south-eastern Papua in particular during 1958 and 1959 (4), and the mystery "submarine" sighted off Rabaraba, also in Papua, by Albert Robins and others in April 1970 (5). The relative proximity in time of Mr Isles's "sea-wheel" and Mr Robins's "submarine" is certainly most interesting.

The writer is particularly indebted to Mr Rupert Drew of Abergavenny for drawing his attention to Mr Isles's book, and to Mr Isles himself for additional details and recollections of the "sea-wheel" sighted by him.

R e f e r e n c e s .

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- 2: Sanderson, I.T. 1970. "Invisible Residents" (New York, Tandem Books).
- 3: Isles, C. 1973. "Rahui" (Paul Elek Books, London).
- 4: Cruttwell, N.E.G. Flying Saucer Review, Special Issue no:4, August 1971, pp.3ff.
- 5: Cruttwell, N.E.G. Flying Saucer Review, vol.18, no:3, May-June, 1972, pp. 17-18.

UFO ACTIVITY IN NORTHERN BRITAIN:

SUMMER 1976,

by

Miss Jenny Randles.

After a rather quiescent period, the Summer of 1976 has brought some intriguing UFO cases to light, particularly in the field of "contactee" experiences. Because such cases are so few and far between, I shall concentrate this article on these latest examples.

Recent publicity in the Bolton area brought attention to a report dating from 1964. The witness, a lady who was aged 65 at the time, resided in a residential area of Bolton known as Little Lever. Her name was Mrs Lainchbury. Although the exact date remains unremembered, Mrs Lainchbury does recall that she had retired to bed, and that at 01.30 hours she was awoken by a whirring noise and a brilliant orange glow that filled her bedroom. Going to the window she saw a glowing ball of light glide past the window and burst silently into a thousand pieces. Strange chattering noises now sounded outside, although there was no discernible source for them. The following morning the window frame, door, and drain-pipe closest to where the glowing ball had passed were found to be burnt or scorched. Although repainted, the wood and metal constituting those structures appeared to "reject" the paint at those places, and the paint fell off in lumps. Recent site investigations conducted by DIGAP and MUFORA show that, even after all these years, the paint is still severely blotched in those particular places, although nowhere else on the house or on adjacent houses.

Approximately three months later, Mrs Lainchbury was awoken by a small figure in her room. She propped herself up on her elbow and observed a humanoid being about 5 feet in height, and totally covered by a suit made of tiny grey rings (Fig.1). The beings explained that he was an occupant of the exploded ball and vanished.

Some while later, three similarly dressed beings appeared in the room and told Mrs Lainchbury that they were visiting her because she had not been afraid. She asked where they came from, and the letters P L U T O appeared mysteriously in the air before her. She claims that she did not know that this was the name of a planet until she looked it up later.

Several years later (exact date unremembered), the witness was "willed" to go to her window, past which she saw an orange ball float. She feels certain that this was the stranded humanoids being rescued and saying goodbye to her.

Mrs Lainchbury has remained very calm and insistant, and says that it is a burden off her mind to have at last divulged her story to others (1).

The second series of incidents concerns a Mrs Hamilton, from the centre of strife torn Belfast. She claims that, since 1972, she has been visited by ufonauts in her home, and to have been aboard their craft. These claims have been excellently researched by Miles Johnston and John Hind of BUFORA's Northern Ireland branch.

Mrs Hamilton describes the beings as being "perfect" humans of both sexes, with long hair, and flowing gay clothes. Their craft are white and large, and cleaner than any hospital, being of a circular shape. Several inconsistencies occur in the statements allegedly made by the aliens. For example, they claim that some of them live quite freely on the dark side of the Moon. She has been given "predictions" by these entities. They are mostly of a personal nature, but others are that twins will be born to Princess Anne and that a new country — probably Canada — will join the EEC in 1977 or 1978. Mrs Hamilton is being urged by the entities to write a book to "stop the troubles in Ireland", though she is wary of doing so for fear

of reprisals. The aliens, however, supposedly "protect" her and are said to have issued retributorial actions against those who do her wrong. This case is still under observation (2).

A more recent event relates to happenings transpiring in West Yorkshire during the period 1974 to the present time. The witness, a male recorded here merely as "L" owing to his request for anonymity, is a prominent official and is very wary about speaking of his experiences. He claims to have been visited by alien beings in his bedroom on three occasions. On the last visit, which occurred about February 1976, two beings helped him to travel to their craft by a method seemingly akin to astral projection (incidentally, the same method as Mrs Hamilton describes). "L" claims that he simply floated off his bed and into the under side of a golden glowing "bathtub" shaped ufo outside his residence.

The beings are described as between 6'6" and 7' in height, dressed in one-piece white suits with a high collar. Their faces were long and ashen grey, with long noses and wide thin lips. The eyes were narrow and had pupils like those of a cat. Each hand was equipped with only four digits (Fig.2).

Inside the ufo, "L" was placed upon a table and examined by a huge purple-red eye-like machine. He felt anaesthetised. He asked various questions, but was chastised like a child for his pains, being told that "an insignificant being such as a worm should not ask questions. A thousand of your years are but a day to us".

He was then returned to his bed where he remained immobilized for several minutes, while the aliens meanwhile disappeared (3).

One could be tempted to dismiss these instances as hallucinatory. Indeed, it must be recorded that the last case, which was discovered and investigated by the West Yorkshire UFO Research group — a newly formed organization — has been carefully evaluated by experienced investigator Trevor Whitaker of BUFORA (Yorkshire) and a psychiatrist who works with his group. The opinion of the doctor is that "L's" experiences are hynagogic hallucinations: but then this is very similar to the professional conclusion reached about the famous Betty and Barney Hill "contact" case in the USA. On the other hand, there are other factors that cannot be so lightly dismissed and which should be borne in mind when assessing remarkable claims like those detailed above. For example, both Mrs Hamilton and "L" describe an astral projection-like mode of transport. That two out of three witnesses should the same item is surely of some significance. Then again, "L's" aliens regarded him as virtually insignificant and stated that their time scale was totally different from Man's. If true, then these two items shed a flood of light onto the overall ufo problem, which is largely concerned with "Why Don't they Land Openly" and "Why Don't they Overtly Communicate with Us". The details relayed by "L" make it abundantly clear that the aliens either cannot or will not do these things, presumably because in their eyes we are so insignificant as not to be worth the bother. The time difference reported by "L" seems to support Keel's contentions about time cycles (4).

We are also faced with a problem. Bedroom visitations like those just described are seemingly on the increase. One thinks of the famous experiences of Mrs Appleton of Birmingham during November 1957 (5) and the amazing incidents at Woking recorded in the last issue of "Awareness" (6). It seems at least possible that these cases are part of an overall phenomenon that can manipulate human consciousness and project seemingly hallucinatory experiences. That phenomenon may be of alien origin or a part of Man's internal physical and psychological design. Either way it seems to be important that we determine its mechanism.

There is yet another occupant case to record in this report. It occurred at 06.15 hours on May 11th., 1976, at Higher Fold in Leigh, Greater Manchester. At that time a middle aged lady (name withheld) on her way to work saw a very strange figure atop a landscaped slag-heap. Of normal human height, it was attired in a gleaming silver suit with a viking-like helmet, pointed lapels, and a cloak. It stood by the side of a silver sphere, that appeared to come up to only half the figure's height, an impression due possibly to the sphere actually further away than the figure and partially out of sight beyond the flat topped summit of the slag-heap. The witness had to pass the same area again 5 minutes later, and the figure and the sphere had not moved, although a beam of light was now shining down the slope of the slag-heap from the sphere. At 06.40 hours, when the witness had to pass the site for a third and final time, both the sphere and the mysterious figure had vanished (fig.3).

There were, of course, many other reports received during the Summer of unknown objects in the sky and other phenomena, some of them seemingly quite important, but these must be left over until some later time, especially as some of the cases are still under review.

To close I should like to mention that an update of a report already published by NUFON on research conducted by the Wirral UFO Society on animal reaction cases and the sociological aspects of ufo sightings is now being undertaken. All those with information on these aspects of the ufo problem are invited to write to me at 23 Sunningdale Drive, Irlam, Greater Manchester, M30 6NJ, and the appropriate individuals will be alerted and put in touch.

* * * * *

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- 1: Northern UFO News, June 1976. (full report — available to serious researchers — on file with NUFON: ref.6403).
- 2: A full report (available only to serious researchers) has been prepared for BUFORA (Northern Ireland) by Miles Johnston, c/o The Demesne, Lurgan, Craigavon East, Co. Armagh, N.Ireland.
- 3: Northern UFO News, August 1976. (full report on file with NUFON: ref.7664).
- 4: Keel, J.A. 1973. "UFOs: Operation Trojan Horse" (Abacus Edition), see especially pp.184ff.
- 5: Pacific Stars and Stripes, Jan.13th., 1958.
- 6: Warren, C.C. 1976. "A UFO-Prone Household at Woking", Awareness, vol.5, no: 2, pp.19-21.

* * * * *



Fig.1.

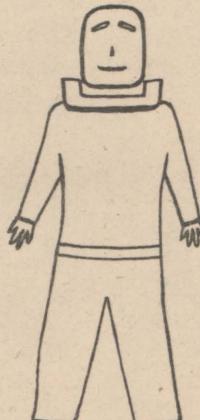


Fig.2.

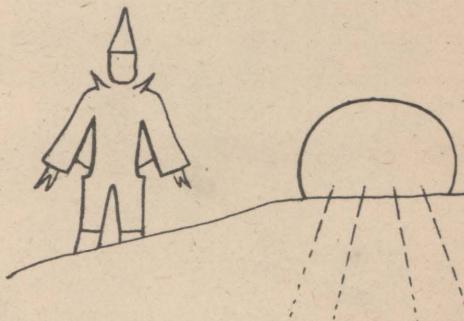
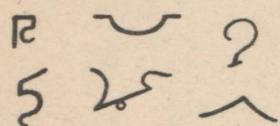


Fig.3.

"UFO Signs and Symbols"by
M.Waters.

For many years now people who have been confronted with ufos have been reporting markings and meaningful-looking symbols on their exterior surfaces. Others have claimed to have received, or to have found, apparent scripts or messages from alien beings, "Martians", or ufo occupants. As these signs and symbols occur in reports scattered widely in the ufo literature, it seems sensible to bring them together here for ease of comparison, in the hope that study of them by qualified individuals (i.e., those specializing in codes, alphabets, and ancient scripts) will yield fruitful results.

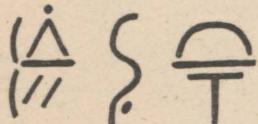
Examples collected by me over the years are given as follows.



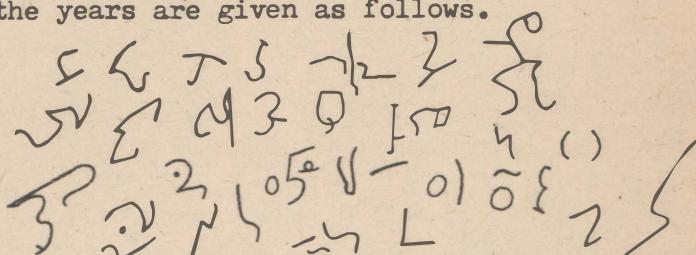
"Martian" signs.
Geneva, Switzerland,
1894-1896.



Villas Boas case:
Brazil, 1957.



Willoughby case:
USA, 1964-1965.



Signs on an inscribed photographic plate
returned to George Adamski, December 1952.
California, USA.



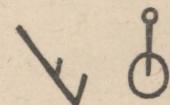
Aguiar case:
Brazil, 1957.



Sao Paulo,
Brazil, 1959.



Socorro, New Mexico,
USA, 1964.



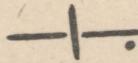
Ballard, Washington,
USA, 1966.



(27)



(25)



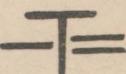
(15)



(12)



(8)



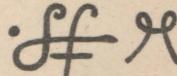
(2)

Symbols that appeared on a sheet of paper allegedly dropped by a ufonaut near Brooksville, Florida, USA. March 2nd., 1965.
The numbers in parenthesis indicate the number of times each sign occurred in the alleged "message".

Madrid, Spain.
1967.



Wheeler case:
California, USA
1954.



Although all is guesswork concerning the significance of these markings, it is not inconceivable that at least some of them are identification marks, having no importance except to the creators and operators of the ufos. By this, I mean that not all the markings are messages or warnings painted on to the exterior surfaces of the ufos for the benefit of human eyewitnesses. After all, we attach number plates to our motor vehicles, paint names on the prows and sterns of ships and boats and on the sides of delivery vans, and advertise the names of airline companies on the sides and tail-fins of our aeroplanes. It may well be, therefore, that the markings noticed on the external surfaces of ufos are of exactly similar import.

Obviously, repetitive signs and symbols in scripts, or alleged scripts, must have rather different significance, and, as has been suggested by certain writers, the marks probably represent letters, words, whole sentences, or ideas. But whether external registration devices, or alphabetical signs, these marks, if only they could be deciphered, might throw a flood of light upon the origins of ufos and the way in which the ufonauts think. Hopefully, one day it will be possible to unravel the meanings of these markings and disclose to all humanity some of the thought processes of these alien visitors.

MONITORING AND PROCESSING UFO DATA

by

J.B.Delair.

(Editorial note: this article is essentially a printed version of a lecture delivered to the ufo conference held in Sheffield earlier this Summer, but deals with matters of sufficient importance to merit permanent record here).

Introduction:

Irrespective of whether one concludes that there is really nothing at all to the ufo phenomenon (as per Menzel (1), Klass (2), etc.), or that the phenomenon is not only real but relates to matters of extreme importance to the human race (as per Keyhoe (3), Michel (4), Hynek (5), etc.), one requires abundant base-material upon which to establish such conclusions.

This paper endeavours to define the range and character of that material, and reviews methods by which it can be effectively monitored and processed.

Some Past Inadequacies:

All too often, students of the ufo phenomenon have seemingly been unaware of, or have ignored, its limits — or at least those presently discernible. By studying only selected or particular elements in its fabric, they have inevitably assessed only a part of the whole, and therefore arrived at conclusions of uncertain validity.

Conversely, most authors who have adopted a wider-than-usual approach to the ufo problem (e.g., Jessup (6), Wilkins (7), and Keel (8), etc.) have, by including in their texts elements that, even by ufological standards, are very strange or bizarre or which are not always immediately relatable to it, tended to alienate themselves from large segments of the main body of ufo "buffs" — the very readers to whom their writings were addressed. Whenever this has occurred, such alienation has undoubtedly derived as much from a general unawareness among the readers of the true character and magnitude of the ufo phenomenon as from any inadequacies of presentation on the part of the relevant authors.

Even at this early stage of our deliberations, therefore, it can be seen that many authors on the one hand and a large percentage of ufologists on the other possess no very clear idea as to precisely what the ufo phenomenon embraces. Of course, every individual interested in ufos will state a personal viewpoint of some kind, although in numerous instances it will be a limited one based upon ignorance, inadequate knowledge, preconceived notions, or a refusal to recognize the actual enormity of the ufo enigma itself.

At the outset, therefore, it will be sensible to briefly trace what the ufo phenomenon is known to embrace, what it probably embraces, and what it possibly embraces. Such a review will thereby establish more exactly the limits or parameters of the phenomenon — so far as these are presently identifiable — and will indicate more fully the categories of data to be monitored and processed.

The UFO Phenomenon:

This phenomenon is typified almost entirely by objects of unknown origin, or origins, and by various effects reportedly associated with them. One school of thought interprets ufos as tangible physical objects and the associated effects as real, while others have argued that all are hallucinatory or mental images induced for unknown reasons in various individuals by agencies of equally unknown origin.

These two concepts — the one physical, the other parapsychical — are at first glance diametrically opposed. Disconcertingly, a large amount of "evidence" appears to exist in support of both. It has been suggested, however, that these seemingly alternative interpretations are actually linked, and that the intelligence believedly underlying the ufo phenomenon may be capable of producing effects which, although apparently divergent to us, are in reality but different aspects of an incredible technological whole.

As this paper's title dictates that our discussion be as comprehensive as possible, and because there appears to be no immediate method of determining just which pieces in the overall ufo puzzle are truly physical or truly parapsychical or a blend of both, it behoves us to look most closely at all the component facets of the enigma.

Ufos themselves are known from a very large series of reported shapes — including discoidal, hemispherical, bowl-like, bell-like, spherical, egg-shaped, football-shaped, cigar-shaped, cross-like, torpedo-shaped, pyramidal, triangular-shaped, crescentiform, dumbbell-shaped, cuboid, wheel-like, cylindrical, and other configurations. Indeed, over 100 different ufo shapes are known (2).

Sizewise, ufos range from small objects a few inches in diameter to gigantic objects several miles in length. Some ufos are known to emerge from or merge with others (e.g., discs from cigar-shaped or cylindrical objects).

Visually, ufos often appear to be solid or metallic constructions, although most frequently they appear to be luminous or fluorescent. Luminosity in ufo reports includes every known colour of the spectrum, as well as black, silver, bronze and white hues. Sometimes a single object displays two or more colours simultaneously.

Many eyewitness descriptions mention windows, nozzles, ladders, ramps, doors, rails, antennae, masts, wheels, rotating lights, and other artificial features such as rivets, plates, and various types of "landing gear" (these latter usually consisting of three or four evenly spaced retractable or telescopic "legs" equipped with flat or round terminal "feet") when landed ufos have been observed.

Ufos operate singly, in pairs, or in larger groups — of which the largest consist of about 100 objects. Such large groups, however, are rare, and groups exceeding 10 objects are relatively uncommon. Grouped ufos often fly or manoeuvre in precise formations, although on other occasions seem to proceed in helter-skelter fashion.

Performancewise, ufos can attain speeds of at least 40,000 mph; higher speeds have allegedly been recorded, although their validity is somewhat questionable). Ufos can also slow to dead stops virtually instantaneously, as well as instantly reverse flight paths and perform high-speed zigzag and angular movements without loss of velocity. They can also accelerate at vertiginous speeds from stationary positions. They can also hover motionless for indefinite periods. While hovering or stationary, ufos can tilt in various ways, and change their orientation from horizontal to vertical, and vice versa.

Ufos are often totally silent, although on other occasions emit noises ranging from almost inaudible hums to thunderous roars, staccato snorts and bangs to continuous whines and buzzings.

Ufos have the apparent ability to materialize and dematerialize at will. According to some radar returns, certain ufos remain optically invisible. Equally surprising is the capacity of other ufos to divide, coalesce, or change shape while under observation.

Temporally, ufos appear at all times of the day and night, although more are apparently observed between 6.00pm and 6.00am than during other hours (10). This is curious in view of the fact that the vast majority of potential observers (i.e. humanity) is asleep between (roughly) midnight and 5.00am.

Climatically, ufos have been sighted under every known meteorological condition.

Geographically, ufos have been observed over (or on) every country, as well as entering or emerging from all the world's oceans and a high percentage of its larger lakes, rivers, and reservoirs. Some localities appear to host more ufo visitations than others, those with the most sightings often being termed "windows" or "ufocals". The vast majority of ufos have been observed out-of-doors, but in a few instances small ufos have been reported inside buildings (11; 12).

Astrophysically, ufos, or objects closely resembling them, have been noted in space between the Earth, Moon, and Sun, or between Earth and the nearer planets, by both astronomers and astronauts (13). Sometimes veritable fleets or armadas of these objects have been seen proceeding in definite directions (14). Not infrequently these objects are of geometrical or artificial configuration. Astronomers have also recorded stationary, moving, and geometrically grouped objects, often luminous or flashing, on the Moon and Mars, and which in all discernible respects closely resemble the ufos of Earthly skies.

Historically, ufos, or aerial and celestial objects closely similar to them, have been sighted for at least 200 years, and, if earlier reports are at all dependable, for several thousands of years (15).

Behaviourwise, airborne ufos perform all manner of movements. Some have been described above. Many of these are to us inexplicable and appear to be pointless. Others, however, are very specific and are clearly deliberate and purposeful. Sometimes two or more ufos conduct various manoeuvres in concert — such as arriving from different directions and aligning in precise formations, or leapfrogging one another. The purpose and significance of such motions are unknown. More readily comprehended, however, are those movements that appear to relate to surveillance or examination programmes. These are usually low-level activities

directed towards identifiable targets (e.g., vehicles, artificial installations, livestock, etc.) and are often executed by single ufos. Less frequently, ufos land upon the terrestrial surface or upon (or enter below) the surface of the larger water areas. Collectively, such events are usually termed "landings", of well over 1000 separate instances are now on record. The underwater activities of practically all submerged ufos can only be guessed at, but those of ufos resting upon land or watery surfaces are much better documented, and apparently relate mostly to some as yet not understood long-range investigative programme. These activities include sampling of water, rocks, soils, natural vegetation, undomesticated animals of all phyla, domesticated plants and animals, various human artifacts and products, and, it seems, even of human beings. On some occasions the activities include a species of photography or televisation (16).

Landed ufos, especially those on land surfaces, and also sometimes low-level ufos, not infrequently disgorge mobile entities which, although displaying considerable variety, are usually of a general humanoid appearance (17). Collectively, these have been christened "occupants", "ufonauts", "humanoids", or "saucerians". Occasionally non-humanoid or very bizarre entities have been observed to emerge from ufos (18). Quite possibly, some of these latter forms are robots or androids, certain of them having reportedly behaved in a manner reminiscent of such creations. Other entities may be specially trained or subservient forms programmed to undertake particular tasks only.

Entities disgorged from low-level ufos often display an ability to "levitate" or "walk about in the air" around the ufos whence they have emerged. This capability is also sometimes demonstrated by entities accompanying landed ufos. An ability to walk on or over water and swampy ground unimpeded and to manoeuvre thereon oblivious to accepted laws of gravity (such as walking up vertical walls) has also been observed on several occasions.

By far the greater number of observed sampling or collecting activities have been conducted by humanoid entities first hand, as it were; but a few instances are on record of a wide range of items and of human beings and other living creatures being drawn upwards into or near airborne ufos at various altitudes above ground level; also of aircraft entering clouds but failing to emerge on their far sides (19). It is worth noting here that quite a large number of cases are known in which ufos disguised or camouflaged themselves as "clouds" or as "banks of mist". Usually, however, sampling and the collecting of specimens proceeds without the owner's consent, being simply taken or, in our parlance, stolen. Very occasionally particular requests (e.g., for water (20), fertilizer (21), a dog (22), etc.) have been made of nearby human onlookers by ufo entities.

Such requests reveal that communication is apparently possible between human beings and at least some ufo entities. Several cases are known where eyewitnesses were addressed in unintelligible languages or sounds by ufonauts, and as many more in which the entities communicated in known Earth languages understood or recognized by the individuals concerned. Also, quite a large number of witnesses have stated that communication occurred on a telepathic plane, or by a process seemingly akin to it. Thus, although essentially alien, the great majority of ufo occupants do not act in a hostile manner towards humanity, even though they frequently display indifference towards eyewitnesses and a scant disregard for who owns what. Moreover, a very high percentage of their activities, both when landed as well as aerial, seem to be conducted in a covert or secretive manner, a tendency related perhaps to their desire not to be disturbed in their work rather than carry out probes and sampling where, or when, human beings will not observe them. Some support for this supposition is seemingly to hand in those

reports (now fairly numerous) in which human beings have accidentally stumbled upon ufo entities engaged in sampling or specimen collecting, or which describe ufo occupant visits to orchards and farms (as in the Gary Wilcox (21) and the Maurice Masse (17) cases). Although often rather remotely situated, orchards and farms are usually hives of human activity. Interestingly, numerous reports of accidental encounters between human beings and ufo entities on these occasions mention the temporary immobilization or paralysis of the former by the latter through the use of light-beams or rays (23).

Physical effects produced by low-level and landed ufos are varied and many, although they naturally tend to be partially controlled by local environments. Electromagnetic effects on lights, combustion engines, outboard motors, electric clocks, radios, television sets, burglar alarms, and other power systems have been commonly reported (24). Magnetisation of watches, compasses, and metallic road-signs are also known, while partial or complete voltage reductions have also sometimes been experienced in areas hosting ufo visitations. Indeed, certain large scale "black-outs" have been directly linked in some quarters with ufos (25). Very probably associated with these electromagnetic effects are the displays of alarm, agitation, panic, and fear by numerous birds and animals (especially dogs, cats, and other common domestic pets such as horses and rabbits) at the close approach of ufos and/or ufo entities (26). Several instances are known of localized "silence" and of the abrupt alteration of temperatures (both to freezingly cold to unbearably hot) in areas immediately adjacent to landed or low-hovering ufos.

All these types of effects, however, are purely transitory, almost invariably ceasing when ufos and/or ufo entities depart from the vicinity of the affected units. Of much longer duration --- although usually not permanent --- are the marks left on natural flora and on ground surfaces at the sites of low-hovering or landed ufos (27). These concern burning or dehydration of grass and plant-life, the discolouration of foliage and the breakage of branches, the promotion of abnormally quick or giant botanical growth, and the creation of circular or geometrically arranged ground depressions and holes of various shapes, sizes, and numbers. Most researchers relate these ground marks to the aforementioned ufo "landing gear".

Effects that may be regarded as permanent include those cases where slugs and worms have had their natural pigmentation altered (often fatally), where cattle, horses and other domesticated animals have been rendered sterile through overclose proximity to ufos, and where electrical fuse boxes and wiring systems have been melted down or partially destroyed by (apparently) sudden or abnormal overloading of current by close approaching ufos. Also in this category are the adverse, and sometimes beneficial, effects sustained by certain individuals exposed to close approaching ufos or to rays or luminous beams emitted by them. The Steve Michalak case (28) is typical of the former and the well-known "alligator bite" case is a good example of the latter (29).

Forming an important final element in this portion of our review are the claims of various individuals asserting that they have encountered --- sometimes repeatedly --- ufo occupants (30). These encounters fall into two main groups; those which happened accidentally and those of apparently prior design.

In my submission, it is very important to segregate these two types of encounters, particularly as each group of claimants will probably be found to have entirely different motives for reporting their respective experiences. At present, ufologists tend to bracket all such claimants together, labelling them as "contactees", whereas it seems fairly clear that only some cases involve deliberate contacts. But deliberate contacts are themselves apparently subdivisible into at least two

further categories, i.e., those in which ufo entities have purposely sought-out and sometimes abducted particular individuals (e.g., Betty and Barney Hill (32), and Antonio Villas Boas (31); others are known too), and those in which human beings have attempted deliberate contact with ufo entities (the Adamski (33), Fry (34), and Bethurum (35) affairs typify this category). The celebrated Venezuelan incident at Petare in November 1954 (36) and the Maurice Masse case of July 1965 (37), are excellent examples of accidental or involuntary confrontations. The use of the word involuntary, however, also applies very aptly to the majority of cases in which ufo entities have apparently sought-out particular human beings; it is certain that neither Betty or Barney Hill nor Villas Boas sought voluntary contact with ufos or their occupants.

All the foregoing elements, whether palatable or not to ufologists as a whole, are recognizable constituents of the overall ufo phenomenon, and must be thoroughly and systematically assessed if the true nature and extent of the ufo problem is ever to be determined. Certainly we must be constantly aware of all these factors if we are to succeed in recording the phenomenon in its entirety or in devising adequate storage systems in which the base material can be effectively lodged and retrieved.

Peripheral Ufology:

Additional to the aforementioned facets of the ufo problem, several other areas of unexplained recurrent aerial events --- not improbably a part of the problem --- must also claim our attention, and, indeed, should continue to do so until such time as future research establishes whether any or all of them are irrelevant to our subject. Due to the absence of a more suitable heading under which to conveniently group these events, I suggest that henceforth they be collectively referred as Peripheral Ufology. This is again an opportune moment to stress that the actual limits of the ufo phenomenon are presently undetermined and that it behoves us to cast our net as widely as possible in our examination of the problem. In order to achieve some sense of perspective, we may regard all items under the heading Peripheral Ufology as representative of phenomenon's probable extensions.

For our purposes, Peripheral Ufology can be taken to include:-

- (i) SKYBLASTS, either as single isolated noises or as groups of sounds separated by specific intervals, themselves sometimes recurrent, and all of unknown cause.
- (ii) SKY-FALLS of various items, either within unnaturally confined areas or of units having undergone unnatural segregation. All showers of stones, mud, or specially shaped pieces of metal and/or ice (as if once associated with artificial constructions), of gelatinous and fatty substances, of blood-like fluids, of fleshy matter, of many kinds of invertebrates and vertebrates, etc., are consigned to this category.
- (iii) ABNORMAL GROUND MARKS suddenly appearing (sometimes overnight), or other abrupt local alterations to landscapes and/or property. The celebrated "Devil's Footprints" at Topsham, Devonshire, in 1855 (38), and the singular damage to crops at Whippingham, Isle of Wight, in July 1967 (39), are good examples of such events.
- (iv) ABERRANT BOTANICAL EFFECTS noticed at or near reputed ufo landing sites, or in areas hosting low hovering ufos. These peculiar plant growths often resemble others found at known ufo landing sites, their suspected origins thus being inferred. Items in this category include giant mushrooms, huge specimens of otherwise well known and normally far smaller plant species, and abnormal and even novel types of moss and lichen.

(v) OBSERVED TELEPORTATIONS OR LEVITATIONS by unknown agencies of various objects, animals, or persons, on occasions when no ufos were detectable. The much discussed Chascomas teleportation, and the localized drawing skyward of hay, boats, cars, horses, cows, and certain human beings (such as Oliver Larch) exemplify controlled events under this heading. It should be noted that, although rather varied in their details, events in this group are not very numerous. Their close similarity, however, to similar effects produced occasionally by ufos is suggestive of the possibility that all events of this character share a common causal agent, namely ufos.

SOME POSSIBLE EXTENSIONS.

In addition to the more obvious ingredients of the ufo enigma, and the types of phenomenon just discussed under the heading Peripheral Ufology, there exists yet a third series of events that, while not provably associated with the ufo problem, may nevertheless be further expressions of it. We should, therefore, not only be aware of them but be prepared to monitor the relevant reports systematically --- even though some researchers may find the extensions to be, at best, somewhat tenuous, and the effort of collecting and filing the resultant data comparatively unproductive.

A brief survey shows the group to include:--

- (i) Sudden appearances and disappearances, often in localized districts, of unusual creatures. These include "Mothman" (40) and the so-called "Surrey Puma" (41), to name only two. Their comings and goings frequently coincide with local ufo activity.
- (ii) Inexplicable mutilations or disappearances, sometimes on an alarmingly large scale, sustained from time to time by farm and domesticated animals. Again, many outbreaks of animal mutilations and disappearances seemingly occur simultaneously with local ufo activity (42). Very probably, the now notorious case of "Snippy", dating from 1967 (43), is the best known instance of animal mutilation.
- (iii) Unexplained disappearances of persons of all ages and both sexes. It is strongly emphasized that only genuinely unexplained disappearances merit inclusion here. Such disappearances tend to occur sporadically, sometimes involving only single persons but at other times whole groups or communities. They are almost always confined to restricted geographical areas, and frequently coincide with localized ufo activity. In this connection, it is perhaps pertinent to note that, just as a high percentage of young or teenage females report sightings of ufos, so also do relatively large numbers of young females appear to vanish during the periods when many individuals of all ages seemingly disappear (44). Only further enquiries will resolve whether or not valid connections exist between these comparative elements.
- (iv) Abrupt disappearances of ships and aeroplanes of all types and vintages, never satisfactorily explained (45). Again, only genuinely inexplicable cases should be admitted to this group of data. One must immediately concede that, at best, the modus operandi of all these disappearances is only tenuously linked with the overall ufo problem, even though in that respect the aforementioned inexplicable cases of cars and other objects being drawn skywards by unknown agencies (see above) in a controlled manner could well be relevant (46; 47).
- (v) Legends and traditions concerning early aerial devices and airborne travel, and the arrival from the sky or celestial regions of advanced culture-bearing

entities often possessing superhuman capabilities (48).

It is likely that some, and conceivably all, of the foregoing categories may ultimately prove to have no connection whatsoever with the ufo problem, although for the time being we would all be failing in our studies if we omitted to monitor these subjects --- at least until such time as a universally acceptable interpretation can be reached about each of them. Such monitoring, of course, will entail much extra work for everyone, but since the subjects are themselves of considerable interest the task may not after all prove too arduous.

THE HUMAN AND SOCIOLOGICAL ELEMENTS:

Having traced the three main categories of monitorable material (i.e., the known, the probable, and the possible expressions of the ufo phenomenon), we may now direct attention to other important factors, such as the human element underlying every report ever received by any ufologist.

Up to now we have been concerned with material that can be conveniently called "raw data". Our knowledge of it is based entirely upon observations and oral or written accounts of experiences submitted by human beings --- that is, by eye-witnesses, field investigators, and writers.

To a very large extent the actual importance of any ufo event, so far as it can be known to us, depends upon the calibre and reliability of the eyewitness in the first instance and upon the integrity of the person or persons who later disseminate or publish an account of it. When handling the "raw data" reviewed on previous pages, it will be important to keep a close & constant watch on this "reliability" factor.

Instances are known when sincere and intelligent eyewitnesses have refused to allow their experiences to be made public (either through the press or via radio and television) because journalists and interviewers in those cases wished to present their stories in a facetious or trite manner, thereby reducing the credibility of the events. Unfortunately this treatment by the media is still fairly common, and in the past was very much worse. An obsession with "Little Green Men from Mars" or "Bug-Eyed Monsters From Space", has long been prevalent journalists and cartoonists confronted with ufo reports, and only in recent years has it begun to diminish.

A further aspect, which is exceedingly important, concerns the role played by field investigators when they interview witnesses. All too often the calibre of field investigators falls short of the ideal, and few of them have ever undergone expert training in the techniques of interviewing persons, who, in the case of ufo percipients, are frequently upset, confused, and sometimes just a little scared. Down the years it seems as though any old vicar, earnest schoolboy, or obsessed crank interested in ufos, has been able to take to the "field" to indulge in a "spot of interviewing". Although mostly very well-intentioned, the blundering efforts of such individuals have frequently antagonized potentially co-operative eyewitnesses, and been the object of often justified criticism by the local populace and press. Thus, although usually sincere and ardent enough, such investigators have unwittingly contributed to the general impression aired from time to time that ufologists are a weird if harmless lot that — like their subject — are not to be taken too seriously.

Does ufology deserve such treatment by the uninformed? We know that it does not, yet the actions of some so-called ufologists unfortunately generate it.

A consistently remodelled public image among ufologists everywhere is long overdue, and it may be that the following observations may prove helpful in achieving the desired results.

An improved public image will undoubtedly come about by attention to better methods of presenting ufology to the public, to the cultivation of more responsible attitudes by field investigators in general, and through the acquisition of a more professional outlook by the editors of ufological publications. No worthwhile improvement can be achieved without correct thinking being applied at every stage by all concerned.

One of the largest areas for improvement concerns the handling and processing of the aforementioned "raw data", i.e., the sighting reports. All too often eyewitness accounts, or investigators' reports, or published descriptions of events, contain all kinds of vague and ambiguous expressions. Sad to say, these are common-place. How many of us, for example, are tired of reading that a ufo was reported as having been "round" or as "big as a house" or that it went very "fast"? Does "round" mean spherical, or discoidal seen full-face, or cylindrical viewed end-on, or what? What does "big as a house" really mean? As big as what type of house? And at what distance from the viewer? Does very "fast" signify over 100 mph., faster than a jet plane, greater than the speed of a shooting star, or what? Such phrases are no more than loose generalizations. Any professional scientist invited to become involved with the ufo phenomenon would rightly be appalled at these inexactitudes and the abysmal laxity on the part of far too many ufologists -- the very folk who so frequently lambast science for not taking a greater interest in the ufo phenomenon. Little wonder that few scientists have openly engaged in ufo research. Much of their apparent disinterest stems not so much as from the inherently iconoclastic character of the ufo phenomenon but from a deep dismay at the very manner in which the activities of too many ufologists are conducted. Neither can the numerous inferior publications full of the aforementioned vaguaries and ambiguities that are churned out by persons who know little if anything about what they are doing promote much enthusiasm among the scientific fraternity.

Regrettably, one therefore concludes that ufologists in general have probably been as much to blame by their shortcoming for turning science "off" the study of ufos as has the perplexing nature of the phenomenon itself.

Confronted with shortcomings like those just discussed, all ufologists should henceforth insist that future ufo records be models of clarity and factual accuracy. But, in striving to attain such an ideal, we must consider other factors, to which we must direct attention.

Behind every report someone, somewhere, at some time has obviously had to have actually experienced an event, to have remembered details of it (either partially or wholly), and to have transmitted it orally or in written form. The extent to which the event interested the onlooker will determine the range and amount of detail absorbed and memorized by them. Often, the degree of interest is directly governed by the conditions surrounding the onlooker at the time. Obviously a sighting made by a man in a crowded train, for instance, is occurring under conditions largely outside his control (he can scarcely jump off or stop the train to obtain a better or longer look), whereas a sighting made by a man walking along a road or across a field would be taking place under conditions he can instantly adapt to his personal reactions (i.e., he can stop or move to a better vantage point).

This factor in eyewitness statements is very important, but is seldom accorded the attention it clearly deserves. One suspects that this failure arises from a curious lack of awareness among many ufologists respecting what they, as researchers, should be looking for and checking in each report. Field investigators should establish the degree of interest evinced by percipients confronted with ufo manifestations, and record it in their final field reports.

Eyewitness interest is also largely generated by whether or not the observed object or phenomenon is familiar to the viewer. Cases are easily recalled in which some object, later proved to be a ufo, was initially identified by observers as probably a new-fangled aeroplane, an advertising blimp, a satellite, or, indeed, as anything so long as it was more or less conventional. Sometimes amusing results arise through attempts to make observed objects conform to the known and the understood. By way of illustration I cite a case received some months ago now by Contact (UK) from a lady, who, quite by chance during a conversation, casually admitted that, when a young girl out one day with her mother, she had seen Sputnik cross the sky. She described it as a spiky orb about the size of a tennis ball at arm's length. She also remembered the date --- 1949. Apart from noting that no orbiting Sputnik or man-made satellite ever appears as large as a tennis ball at arm's length, it need scarcely be added that the earliest satellites were not launched until several years later. In this instance, the identification of the object as Sputnik occurred only after the first (and rather spiky-looking) Sputnik was sent aloft, presumably because the external appearance of both objects was sufficiently similar to permit a cosy and reassuring explanation to be found for a sighting that must, at least initially, have been perplexing. Conversely, of course, many explicable natural and man-made objects are erroneously identified as ufos by the uninformed.

Sometimes the identification of explicable airborne objects and sky phenomena as ufos is undertaken willfully, with a view to deliberately mislead. In assessing our "raw data" this factor must be constantly kept in mind. Serious ufologists ultimately become very cautious (possibly over-cautious) and suspicious as a result.

An inbred desire in some eyewitnesses to gain publicity, notoriety, or to promote self-aggrandisement, even by those who have seen a genuine ufo, constitutes yet pitfall for unwary researchers. Still more distressing are those cases in which formerly accepted ufo reports are exposed as spurious or fraudulent and in which the original or prime advocate of it is unable to accept the disclosure and refuses to having been hoodwinked or mislead. Being hoodwinked is a chastening experience, and one sympathises with the victims if the disclosures are cruel or given wide publicity. Nonetheless, under such circumstances, every ufologist so affected has a responsibility to themselves, to their fellow ufologists, and to ufology in general, and should be accommodating enough to openly admit the error of their earlier assessments. Action of that calibre could only enhance their reputation for integrity among the ufological fraternity.

Yet instances are known where otherwise sincere individuals continue to adhere to outmoded notions or demonstrably fallacious beliefs long after disclosures have revealed the original misinterpretations. The belief of at least one Midlands vicar (who shall remain anonymous) that green fields exist on the Moon, merely because George Adamski once said that they occurred there (49), was, as we all know, exploded years ago by our astronauts. As may be surmised, this vicar is an ardent supporter of Adamski's claims. But such blind adherence to erroneous concepts would be amusing were it not for the fact such individuals often issue equally preposterous statements to newspapers. The pity of it is that many provincial newspapers actually print this rubbish, which, in turn, can and sometimes does colour the accounts of eyewitnesses of otherwise genuine ufo manifestations, whose previous acquaintance with the ufo enigma was perhaps confined to having read highly embroidered accounts of the type we are condemning. Thus, not only have really quite mundane reports been invested with spurious details on many occasions, but the task of unravelling the genuine from the imaginary is still another task confronting the honest investigator.

Not the least of a ufologist's worries are the highly varied abilities of different individuals to observe things (50). Take any hypothetical group of persons and ask them to submit separate accounts of a simulated car crash, and no two narratives will contain identical sets of facts. The police and insurance companies are familiar with this. Now ufologists are too.

In addition to eyewitness observational variability, those same eyewitnesses exhibit an equally varied capacity to coherently set down on paper descriptions of what they saw or think they saw. A fairly recent instance of three school girls who saw a ufo illustrates this particular point. When asked individually to separately draw a picture of what each had seen, each provided a picture different in many details from the other two. Yet all three, when interviewed together, were apparently in close agreement one with another respecting the size, shape, colour, speed, etc., of the object. On the face of things, all three accounts should have tallied much more closely --- but they didn't. Are such discrepancies to be laid at the door of eyewitness observational variability, or did the object literally present itself in different guises to each witness? This question raises a whole host of queries to which ufology does not at present have answers. Yet cases are known where, for example, six out of seven persons in a group clearly saw a ufo that stubbornly remained invisible to the remaining seventh person. That some people cannot see ufos while others can and that, over a period, some can see more ufos than others, now seems to be an emerging fact in ufology. That is tantamount to eyewitness selectability on the part of ufos, or points to percipients having to be in a certain frame of mind --- which we can call receptivity --- before they can see ufos. Salisbury has discussed this matter in some detail relative to ufos sighted over Utah (51).

Such possibilities, which no serious ufologist can discard at this juncture, lead us into the psychological and psychic fields, which in turn lead to further possibilities that at least some ufos operate (or appear to operate) on totally different wavelengths of energy or belong to a different order of matter normal imperceptable to us. The reference a few moments ago to "states of mind" at the times of ufo sightings also means that we cannot ignore the idea postulated in recent years by Bowen and others that some, if not all, ufo sightings could be holographs. In other words, scenes of ufos and ufo occupants, complete with the impressions of sounds, odours, and other sensations, could be beamed to selected human beings at all sorts of random (or apparently random) times by unknown agencies for unfathomed reasons. That some ufo sightings could be thus generated is not beyond the bounds of possibility, although how holographs could produce semi-permanent effects, such as dehydrated vegetation, scorched ground circles, or electromagnetic disturbances is far from clear. It would seem that a high percentage of observed ufos definitely are physical, are tangible, and are not transmitted pictures.

Nevertheless, the fact that some sort of eyewitness selectability occurs in a measurable percentage of the known cases reveals that our concepts of what the ufo phenomenon is all about and how it operates in its entirety are extremely deficient. And it is because of this very deficiency and a rather general unawareness among ufologists of many of the factors discussed in this paper that so little has yet been attempted in the way of systematically monitoring them.

Now that there is a growing awareness of the possible existence of these factors, it is probable that most of the known ufo record will have to undergo careful scrutiny to isolate and extract from it such information (hitherto unnoticed) as relates to these factors. Simultaneously, all new ufo reports will have to be similarly processed for their possible presence. Obviously, if most past, and not a few present, ufologists have been unaware of the existence of these now emerging

facets of the ufo enigma, then understandably no searches will yet have been made for them. It could well be, therefore, that large and significant masses of valuable data necessary for unlocking the ufo riddle already exists in our archives. All that is necessary is for us to recognise that data and to utilize it in elucidating this formidable problem; recognition of these interwoven strands of "evidence" is what this paper is really all about. And if by highlighting the singularly difficult problems centred on the human and sociological aspects of the problem it succeeds, then the effort of writing it will have been very worthwhile. On the assumption that recognition of these factors will ultimately occur, I wish to close by reviewing methods of preserving and utilizing ufo reports in bulk.

PROCESSING THE DATA:

The collecting and filing of ufo reports is a meaningless occupation unless some systematic method is employed. Obviously, all collections of ufo reports should be arranged in such a way that, at "the drop of a hat" so to speak, specific cases can be more or less instantly retrieved for further study. This is especially important in view of the fact that over 100,000 separate reports are now known.

Physically, the actual reports (i.e., the "raw data") come in the guise of bits of paper, of which some are occasionally augmented by films and photographs. Leaving aside the latter, which really form a small proportion of the total amount of material confronting us, it seems sensible to divide up the bits of paper into (a) newspaper and magazine cuttings, (b) books and ufo periodicals, and (c) original eyewitness letters, completed questionnaires, and field investigators' reports.

Of these, it is suggested that all newspaper and magazine cuttings be pasted into scrap-books in strict chronological order, with notes accompanying each item as to when it was published and its source. It is vital that every press cutting be properly documented. All too often cuttings are received (frequently many months after publication occurred) without dates and/or the names of the publications printing them. Identifying the correct dates and sources for such material can be a long, frustrating, and occasionally insoluble task. In the latter circumstances, undocumented press cuttings become next to worthless. Yet it is astonishing how often these elementary precautions are not taken, even by some ufologists.

With regard to books and periodicals containing ufo reports unknown from other sources, these should ideally be arranged alphabetically by authors, or, in the case of periodicals, by the titles of the various serials.

Respecting the original material comprising group (c) above, all cases should be filed in strict date-of-observation order.

Many ufologists, I understand, file their material on a continuous numerical basis, whereby each report is awarded a reference number upon arrival that remains special to it for all time. Such a system is laudable if reports for a geographically restricted area only are collected, but does not operate effectively if wider, national or international coverage is attempted. Moreover, if different ufologists working independently happen to collect the same report it does not follow that both will award it an identical registration number in their respective file. Differences of this sort, while perfectly acceptable within each relevant file, lead to all kinds of confusion when two or more such files are amalgamated or data within them are exchanged merely by reference to registration numbers awarded constituent entries. Again, the highly uneven rate at which reports arrive from different parts of the world means that a continuous numerical system rapidly gets

out of gear if, for example, two further reports for 1963 and five for 1969 are received as late as, say, 1976.

Various filing systems exist that provide solutions to this difficulty. Of these a punched-card system offers many advantages, while a computerized system is better still. But few individuals or groups have access to, or can afford, such facilities, both of which in view of the present size of the known ufo record would also be expensive to operate. Although, as previously mentioned, at least 100,000 separate ufo reports are known to be in existence, this total might easily be doubled were the various "hidden" sources for reports to become suddenly available. These sources include police records, meteorological and astronomical registers, military and defense archives, and innumerable newspaper files. The latter, incidentally, contain masses of local reports of which but a minute fraction is ever published. The collecting together of all these reports and the transference of the resulting material to a punched-card system or to a computer would be a truly immense undertaking and involve financial outlays of a magnitude beyond the normal resources of private researchers or local study groups.

In that connection it is almost certain that the systematic acquisition of all these reports (which one day must be achieved) will only occur through a concerted effort by several participating groups and individuals, all working to an agreed plan. In point of fact, this is now beginning to happen, since bodies like Contact (UK) and Nufon in Britain, GESAG in Belgium, and LDLN in France, have already commenced the regular transmission of reports (both old and new) to Dr. J. Allen Hynek's Centre for UFO Studies in Chicago, which enjoys computer facilities. In due course, all participating groups will receive a detailed computer print-out of the final overall catalogue planned to emerge from this international co-operation.

But why, it might be asked, bother to circulate and channel so many ufo reports in this way? Do we not already possess enough reports to prove that ufos exist? Although one can probably answer YES to the second question, it is also a fact that the significance of any particular ufo sighting, no matter how spectacular the event may have been, can ever be known unless its relationships to other ufo activity can be determined. It would, for example, be nice to know why 3 discs were seen on a particular date over, say, Scunthorpe. Why weren't they seen there the week before, or on the following day, or a month later? By collecting reports from all quarters and arranging them systematically on a chronological basis, patterns of ufo activity emerge. Under such an arrangement, the reason why 3 discs appeared over Scunthorpe when they did might then become readily apparent.

Such monitoring of reports, by arranging them systematically in some type of filing system, enables the global activities of ufos to be more readily comprehended. Ufos operate globally without regard to man-made international boundaries, hence our studies of them must be equally world-embracing. Global coverage, of course, is exceedingly difficult and expensive to achieve satisfactorily, but through the setting up and expansion of the co-operating study-groups just mentioned, whereby massive exchange of material from all quarters becomes possible, it is hoped that numerous in-depth investigations of the ufo enigma expected to arise from this co-operation will produce some set of reasonable answers to this enormous problem in the foreseeable future. It should also help us to more quickly define the actual parameters of the ufo phenomenon that, as mentioned at the start of this paper, are still very uncertainly known.

But not every individual or study-group will necessarily want to regularly transmit all their reports to the Chicago UFO Centre, or will ever possess a punched-card system or a computer of their own. They will, on the other hand, require a

reliable system for recording and storing all such ufo reports as come their way. Experience has shown that the best systems provide for the simultaneous logging of a very comprehensive range of facts about each case, and that the best and most economic method to attain this is via a catalogue composed of organized columns into which specific details can be separately entered. Let us examine such a catalogue in more detail.

Because ufos appear at all hours of the day and night over a great variety of locations in most erratic fashion, our catalogue must be capable of recording all these facts, as well as information about numbers, types, and salient behavioural patterns of ufos, of their effects on mechanical, or inanimate objects, on plants and animals (all phyla), and on human beings, whether they land or not and, if they do, whether occupants are seen. If so, then how many occupants and their general stature and numbers also need to be recorded, as also the reactions to such events by eyewitnesses. The catalogue must also include a column for the insertion of original references in order that rapid retrieval of all relevant facts may be effected at any time.

By entering all reports in the catalogue chronologically, and, if several reports are received for the same day (as is often the case), those are arranged temporally, a more or less precise order in which the various ufo activities occurred over very wide geographical areas can be established. Such orderly sequences will inevitably assist studies of orthoteny, a la Michel (52), and of ufocals, or why ufos appear to haunt or visit certain localities more frequently than others.

Since in due course every report will be accorded a rating --- based upon the extent of its component details or lack thereof --- a further column must be provided in the catalogue for a rating system. Such a system might consist of an "A" for first class reports, a "B" for apparently genuine reports lacking full details, a "C" for unsatisfactory reports that may nevertheless pertain to genuine ufo manifestations, and a "D" for reports lacking adequate details to allow definite conclusions to be reached in any direction. This rating system should not be confused with the classification proposed by Jacques Vallee (53) and later extended by other workers, in which reports are categorized as TYPE I, TYPE II, TYPE III, etc.

In addition to creating and maintaining a catalogue like that just described --- and it might be one confined merely to a single county, or a definite region, or a single country --- further catalogues might be developed along specialized lines. One might, for example, compile a catalogue of low-level sightings and landings, as Peter Rogerson (54), or a catalogue of electro-magnetic effects, or one of animal reactions, as Gordon Creighton (55), or for type of ufo occupants, etc. Indeed, catalogues of some of these and other segments of the ufo phenomenon have already been attempted (56), and others are known to be in the pipeline. It is thus imperative that as much information be collected and arranged in specialized catalogues as possible, in order that individual cases can be accurately correlated and put into perspective. At present it is scarcely possible to achieve this.

The creation of such catalogues, moreover, should also go far towards demonstrating that serious ufologists are trying to prosecute their researches along responsible scientific lines. That, in turn, should ultimately arouse the much needed interest of the scientific fraternity, which can bring a vast amount of useful expertise to bear upon our subject. Catalogues, then serve several highly useful, and in some cases vital, functions simultaneously.

But the compilation of catalogues is but a part of the activity serious ufologists should ideally engage in. A chronologically arranged catalogue will contain

entries for localities only in date or temporal order. It would be very useful to have localities arranged alphabetically. How often we want to know if or when, in evaluating a new report from, say, Skipton, earlier ufos were sighted over that town. A card index designed to record every known locality visited by ufos (i.e., one card for each locality) would, if arranged alphabetically, after a while show that ufos had perhaps been reported over Skipton in 1951, 1957, 1963 (4 times), 1967, and 1971. Periodic ufo visitations of specific localities would then rapidly become determined, and lead to enquiries as to what existed at the affected localities to attract so much attention. Studies of local installations, geological formations, mineral phenomena, or of other features such as reservoirs and cemeteries (^{know} that that ufos are interested in both those features), might reveal patterns that would repeat themselves in other areas where the card index showed recurrent visitations. Thus, it might eventually emerge that, so far as ufos are concerned, there exist important common factors between, for example, Skipton, Torquay, Paris, and Nairobi. Alphabetically arranged card indexes would instantly highlight all such behavioural trends, and, again, also probably prove useful to researchers studying orthoteny and ufocals. Ufo periodicity at specific sites or in particular regions also has a bearing upon the problem of ufo "waves" so, once again, card indexes like those just discussed could prove of enormous value to many different ways simultaneously.

Mention of ufo waves leads us to appreciate that periodicity factors established via catalogues and card indexes might provide additional tools for predicting much more precisely than hitherto when, and possibly where, future ufo waves will occur. Indeed, I hope to discuss this aspect of ufo research much more fully in a forthcoming paper. At present, the known ufo record suggests that the next major "wave" might be in 1977, or 1978, but exactly where the greatest concentrations of visits will occur remains uncertain. Accurate forecasting, of course, means that we can programme our man-power and locate our field equipment in suitable localities well in advance of the "wave" itself, and thereby monitor the whole event much more comprehensively than ever before. The outcome could then become most exciting for everyone. But only systematic recording of information, such as the alphabetical card index described, will permit us to reach this stage.

CONCLUSION:

In summary, therefore, I would say that it is really up to all serious ufologists to "put their house in order". At present it is in a rather chaotic state, even though all the ingredients for marvelous discoveries already exist (albeit in disarray). Purposeful team-work, along the lines already pursued so successfully in Britain by NUFON, and the exchange of pertinent information should be energetically promoted everywhere. It is no use any longer "sitting on" little known local reports (that may prove to be of great significance) as if they were personal property. Sensible and co-ordinated efforts are required from everyone. That means that everyone in the ufo arena today is equally important and that, provided the correct outlook is generated, anyone at any time can make genuinely valuable contributions. Such contributions might take many forms. I have, for example, indicated the vast number of unpublished ufo reports lying in provincial newspaper offices up and down the country. Polite approaches to senior newspaper editors usually result in co-operation whereby the serious researcher is allowed access to the relevant files. From then on it is a matter of many hours hard slog through piles of old letters, news cuttings, telex tapes, etc.; but the rewards are often amazing. It is known that one researcher culled 43 previously unknown reports from the archives of the Western Evening News in Plymouth, and that another obtained 106 previously unknown reports from the files of the Bournemouth Evening Echo. How many other ufo reports lie unknown in archives elsewhere?

Old books on folklore, local histories, parish records, defunct society magazines, and such like often contain further ufo reports dating from much earlier times. Visits to libraries are required to locate and extract such material. Of these, the main county libraries are the best places for finding such material, although many smaller town libraries possess good collections of local historical literature of all sorts. Someone has to undertake these searches. It could be you or a group of you working in concert. On the assumption that you undertake such a search, be sure to document every item you discover as fully as possible, and ensure that it, or a copy of it, is sent to BUFORA, CONTACT (UK), or NUFON, the three bodies in Britain today directly concerned with such a data collecting programme.

So many things remain to be tackled before we can really say we know what the ufo phenomenon truly portends. Let us be among those who unravel the problem and who will be recalled by posterity as the people who laid solid foundations for the new science of ufology; for make no mistake, one day it will be accepted as such in all quarters. Let us therefore hasten that day.

* * * * *

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